

LOG OF MEETING
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

2002 JUL 15 A.M. US

SUBJECT: Bedclothes Briefing, sponsored by the Sleep Products Safety Council

DATE OF MEETING: May 15, 2002

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: July 15, 2002

SOURCE OF LOG ENTRY: Allyson Tenney, ESME (AT)

LOCATION: Sheraton Suites
801 North Saint Asaph Street, Alexandria, Virginia

CPSC ATTENDEES: Allyson Tenney, Engineering Sciences

NON-CPSC ATTENDEES: See attached attendees list

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

The objective of the bedclothes briefing sponsored by the Sleep Products Safety Council (SPSC) was to provide an update on the current status of mattress and bedclothes research, project schedules, and future research plans. The briefing also provided an opportunity for individual companies to display applicable products at a tabletop exhibit.

After opening remarks from Russ Abolt, President of the International Sleep Products Association (ISPA), Gordon Damant provided an overview of the industry sponsored research program on mattress and bedclothes flammability. Included in the presentation was a summary of the open-flame ignition hazard analysis, the rationale for the research approach, and data analysis of the research to date. The presentation concluded in an explanation of the need for a bedclothes study.

Thomas Ohlemiller and Richard Gann from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) provided further insight to the rationale behind the test program by outlining the fire risk concepts associated with mattress and bedding fires and the reduced risks resulting from a mattress flammability standard. The fire performance of bedclothes and their effect on mattress fire behavior was also discussed in detail as well as the details regarding the bedclothes study. The bedclothes study will conduct fire tests involving mattress and bedclothes designs of varying fire behavior, specifically focusing on filled bedding items (i.e. comforters, pillows). Three mattress designs, all previously studied representing current production, a low heat release rate, and an intermediate heat release rate, will be used.

CPSC & (EIS) Cleared 7-17-02
✓ No Mfrs/Providers or Products Identified
Exempted by

Gordon Damant then discussed the involvement of the California Bureau of Home Furnishings (CBHF). CBHF is planning to initiate their own bedclothes study and to conduct correlation studies between the burner used in California Technical Bulletin 129 (TB 129) and the NIST burner, a double burner developed during an earlier phase of the mattress flammability research. The correlation study is planned to be completed by end of July, 2002.

Ryan Trainer of ISPA and Al Klancnik of Serta, Inc. contributed to the briefing by providing updates on current legislative activities regarding mattress flammability and a producer's perspective on the overall research program, respectively.

Concluding remarks estimated that a report on the bedclothes study is expected by September, 2002.

MAY 15th BEDCLOTHES BRIEFING

ATTENDEE LIST

Suppliers (Exhibitors in Bold)

Alan Ball, Vita-Nonwovens
Chiu Chan, Foamex
Rich Cohen, Chem-Tick Coated Fabrics
Dr. Ron Dombrowski, FR Solutions
Becky Frazier, Vita Nonwovens
Martin Goode, Wellman Inc.
Lou Hahn, Elk Corporation
Alan Handermann, BASF Corporation
Jim Hopkins, Chiquola Industrial Products
Karen Johnson, BASF Corporation
Frank Land, McKinnon-Land LLC
Susan Lord, Springs Industries
Brad Martin, Burlington Industries
Joseph McFadyen, Wellman Inc.
Winston Moore, Wellman Inc.
Harrison Murphy, Ventex
Steve Ogle, L&P Textile Fibers Product Division -
David Ryan, Craftex
Tony Shaw, KoSa Fibers
Tom Taylor, Western Nonwovens
Terry Thiem, Carpenter
Gerry Welkley, L&P Textile Fibers Product Division
Scott Walters, Springs Industries

Bedclothes Producers

Stephen Palmer, United Feather
Michele Wallace, Cotton Inc.

Association Representatives & Others

Patty Adair, American Textile Manufacturers Institute (ATMI)
Bob Barker, American Fiber Manufacturers Association (AFMA)
Sam Brickle, Hyman Brickle & Son, Inc.
Joe Hobson, Home Fashion Products Association (HFPA)
William Horn, Fire Retardant Chemicals Association (FRCA)
Fran Lichtenberg, Alliance for the Polyurethanes Industries
Jim McIntyre, Polyurethane Foam Association (PFA)

Alyson Price, Alliance for the Polyurethanes Industries
Richard Taffet, Thelen Reid & Priest
Allyson Tenney, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
Phil Wakelyn, National Cotton Council

Speakers

Russ Abolt, ISPA President

Gordon Damant, SPSC Scientific Spokesperson

Dick Gann, National Institute of Standards & Technology

Al Klancnik, Serta, Inc.

Tom Ohlemiller, National Institute of Standards & Technology

Ryan Trainer, ISPA General Counsel

Staff

Patricia Martin, SPSC Executive Director

Jane Oseth, SPSC Associate